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VOL. 9 - NO. 9

BLUE BOLT

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BLUE
BOLT

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WEB COMIC
UNIVERSE.COM



THE EDITORS WRITE:

Dear Readers:

Here's something important to remember in March — important enough to deserve extra-big type:

SUPPORT THE RED CROSS DRIVE!

Cordially yours,
THE EDITORS

THE READERS WRITE:

Dear Editors:

After reading the latest issue of BLUE BOLT I have formed my opinion of this wonderful comic book.

I think the foremost reason I enjoy this book is because it is very realistic. The drawings and covers are excellent and I also like the "Questions and Answers." The things I enjoy most though are the plots of the stories. For instance, the "Dick Cole" stories vary and Dick enjoys sports and everything else the average boy does. The reason "Dick Cole" is such a favorite is that readers feel that he is one of them.

I wish to thank the editors for producing this wonderful down-to-earth comic book.

A "Dick Cole" fan,
Billy Gene Warren
Birmingham, Alabama

* * *

Dear Editor:

I am sorry to say but I think "Dick Cole" has been based on the same thing all the time.

I have been a faithful follower of BLUE BOLT for a long time, and the crook always catches Dick and he gets away just in time to win a football, baseball, or tennis game. Couldn't you

have him play one long complete game?

I like "Edison Bell" the best now. I used to like "Dick Cole."

Sincerely,
Edward Pierce
Salem, Massachusetts

* * *

Dear Sirs:

I have been reading BLUE BOLT comics since I can remember, and in my opinion it is tops.

"Dick Cole" is my favorite story. It is so realistic and he does things the average boy does. It has very good plots unlike some silly comics I have read.

There is only one criticism I have and that is: skip "Kids is Kids." I don't dislike it, but to me BLUE BOLT is more for older children and we have grown out of the kids-age.

I think it is a marvelous idea for you to put out a DICK COLE comic magazine, because I think Dick is America's ace comic boy.

Thank you,
Mabbie Igleheart
Topeka, Kansas

* * *

Dear Sirs:

One of the main reasons I like BLUE BOLT comics is because of the pains-

taking artwork. BLUE BOLT is one of the few leading comic books which is careful of every minor detail.

"Dick Cole," in my opinion, is the best drawn in the book. I like to read the letters from the readers. It wouldn't hurt the book if there were two pages of letters. The only thing I've found wrong with the book is the print of "Rick Richards." It's a little hard to read.

Yours truly,
Reuben Roy
Natchitoches, Louisiana

* * *

Dear Sirs:

I have read many comic books, ones which were funny and full of laughter, and others which were tense with excitement. But never have I read such an interesting, exciting, and enjoyable comic book as BLUE BOLT. But I do not say that it is perfect. I think it would be much better if you put in a story about a girls' college where there is a girl or a group of girls who save the day. As it is, all your stories are about young men and none about young women.

Yours truly,
Myron Steir
New York, New York

ADDRESS YOUR MAIL TO BLUE BOLT COMICS, 119 W. 19th ST., NEW YORK 11, N. Y.
\$1.00 will be sent to the writer of each letter published on this page.

Printed in the U.S.A.

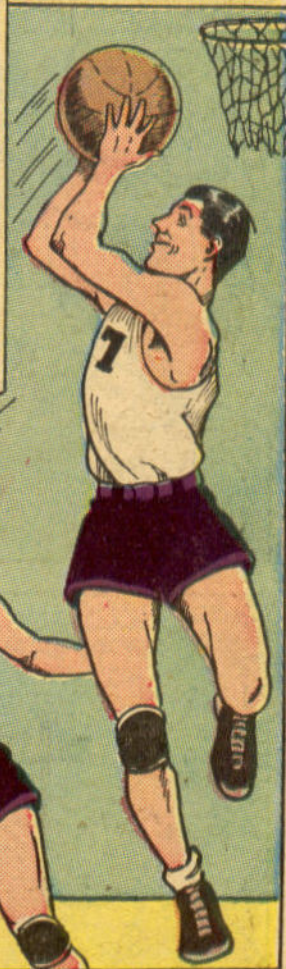
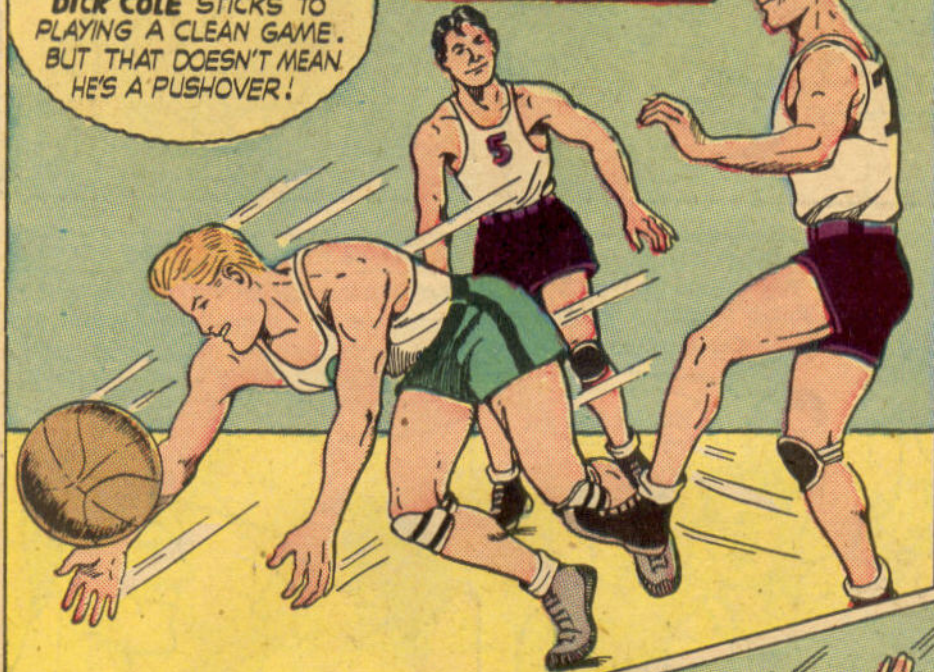
DICK COLE

EVEN WHEN
FOULS FLY THICK AND
FAST BOTH ON AND OFF
THE COURT, HARD-HITTING
DICK COLE STICKS TO
PLAYING A CLEAN GAME.
BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN
HE'S A PUSHOVER!

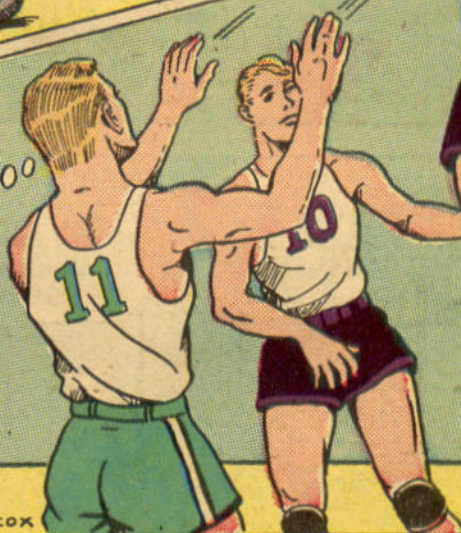
WILSON	44
4	
FARR	43



THIS STORY BEGINS
AT A CRUCIAL
MILITARY SCHOOL
LEAGUE
BASKETBALL GAME
BETWEEN WILSON
AND HOLDEN
ACADEMIES. "HEX"
NORTON PLAYS
BRILLIANTLY FOR
WILSON.



HEY!
WHERE'D HE
COME FROM? I
THOUGHT I HAD A
SURE TWO
POINTS!



ART BY JIM WILCOX

Robert D. Wheeler, Editor and General Manager
Mel Cummin, Art Director

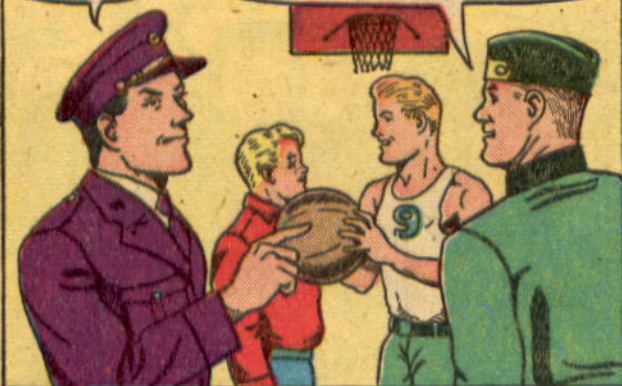
BLUE BOLT, Vol. 9, No. 9, May-June, 1949, published bi-monthly by The Premium Group of Comics, a Division of The Premium Service Co. Inc., P.O. Box 1198, Independence Square, Philadelphia, Pa. Editorial offices, 119 West 19th Street, New York 11, N.Y. Printed in U.S.A., copyright 1949 by The Premium Service Co. Inc. Price 10 cents per copy. Subscription price \$1.00 per year (6 issues) in U.S.A. Entered as Second-Class matter, March 20, 1940, at the Post Office at Philadelphia, Pa., under the Act of March 3, 1879. All characters and incidents described or depicted in stories (except those based on history or fact) are fictitious. Any resemblance to living persons is a coincidence.



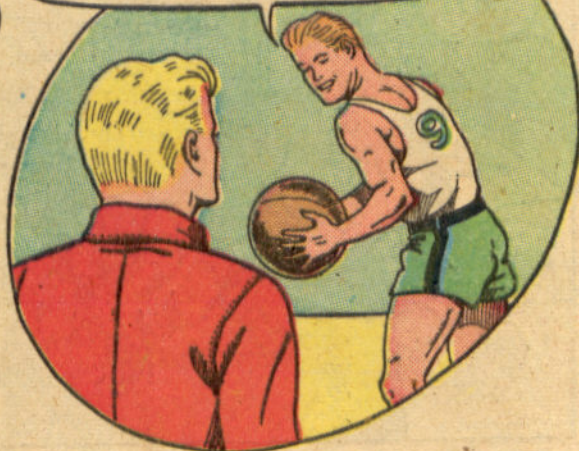
NEXT DAY, HEX MAKES A TRIP TO FARR M. A. AND PAYS A "FRIENDLY" CALL TO THE FARR GYM.

WHO'S THE KID WITH DICK COLE?

THAT'S DICK'S BROTHER, ROD, HERE FOR A VISIT! DICK'S GIVING HIM SOME POINTERS!

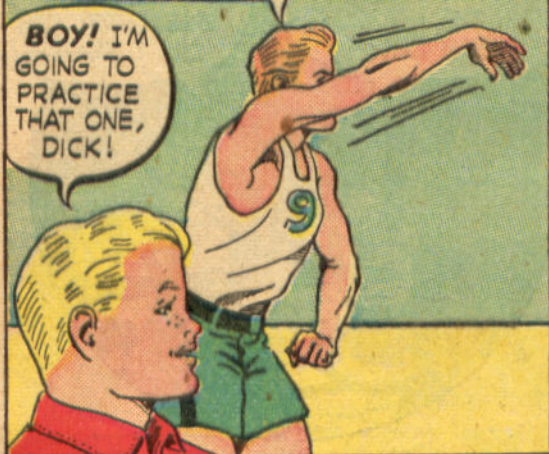


THE PIVOT SHOT COMES IN HANDY, ROD. YOU START LIKE THIS, WITH YOUR BACK TO THE BASKET.



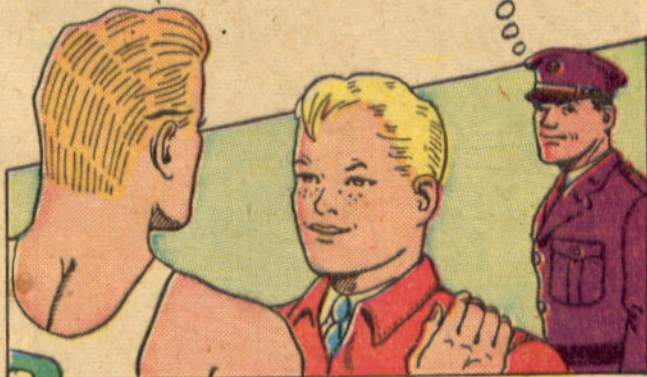
THEN PIVOT ABOUT AND POP 'ER IN, LIKE **THAT!** A HARD SHOT TO STOP!

BOY! I'M GOING TO PRACTICE THAT ONE, DICK!



GO TO IT, ROD! PRACTICE DOES IT! FARR'LL NEED YOU SOME DAY!

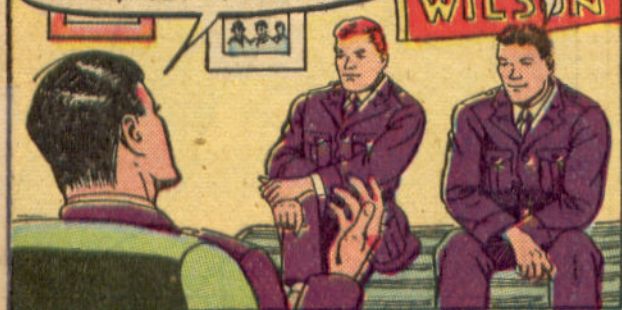
HMMM. THOSE BROTHERS THINK A LOT OF EACH OTHER! I FEEL A SWELL IDEA COMING ON!



HEX RETURNS TO WILSON M.A., AND HIS CRONIES, MILT AND GEORGE.

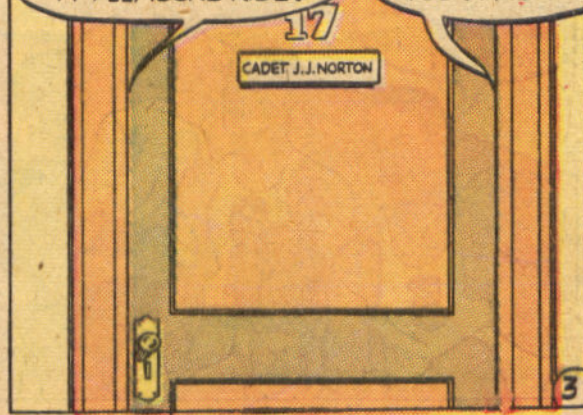
WITHOUT DICK COLE, FARR IS SURE TO LOSE! THAT'S WHY I WANT YOU TWO FELLOWS TO PULL A HARMLESS LITTLE SCHOOLBOY PRANK... FIRST, GET A CAR...

NIX! DICK COLE IS TOO TOUGH TO KIDNAP!



RELAX! THIS STUNT WILL BE EASY. ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS GIVE THE KID A PLEASURE RIDE!

KID, EH? THAT'S DIFFERENT! LET'S HEAR YOUR ANGLE!



Q 1 Would you associate the word "hex" with witchcraft, carpentry, or swearing?

A FEW DAYS LATER, AS ROD IS HEADING FOR THE FARR GYM TO VIEW THE BIG PLAY-OFF GAME WITH WILSON...



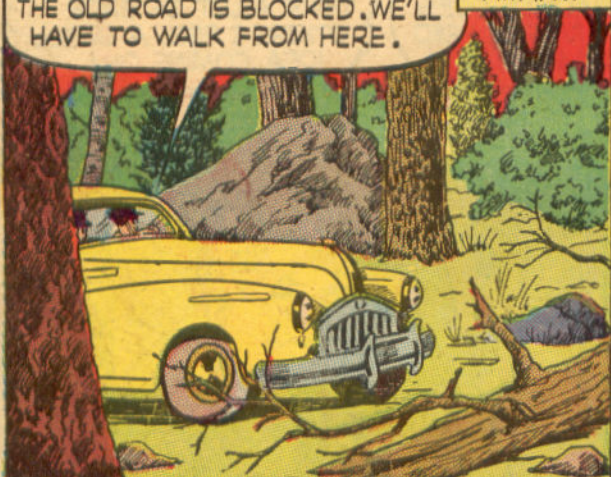
IN YOU GO! DON'T YELL OR WE'LL BAT YOUR EARS DOWN!

NOBODY SAW US! STEP ON IT, MILT!



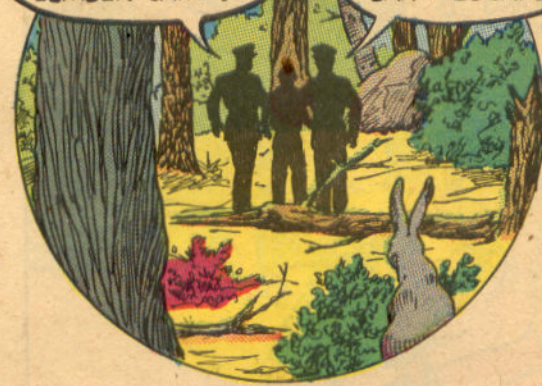
ROD IS WHISKED OFF TO A POINT A FEW MILES AWAY...

THE OLD ROAD IS BLOCKED. WE'LL HAVE TO WALK FROM HERE.



ONLY A FEW MILES MORE. WE'RE GOING TO LEAVE YOU SHUT UP IN THE ABANDONED LUMBER CAMP!

KEEP WALKING STRAIGHT ALONG, AND NO FUNNY BUSINESS! YOU CAN'T ESCAPE!



BACK AT FARR...

C'MON, TEAM! LET'S GO! WE'LL SWAMP WILSON!

I WONDER WHERE ROD IS? HE'S NOT IN HIS SEAT!

DICK! I FOUND THIS NOTE FOR YOU IN THE DRESSING ROOM!



GREAT SCOTT!

Cole: your brother is at the old lumber camp - come out, alone and get him. Alone!

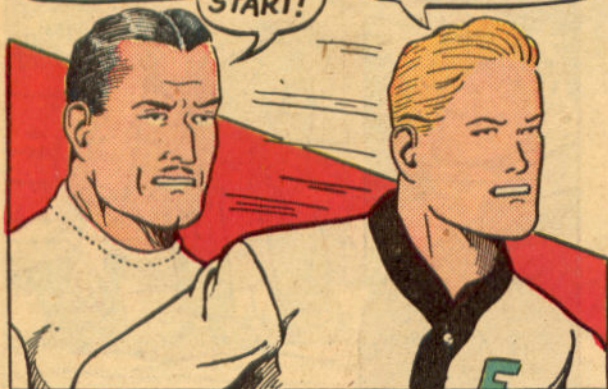


A 1 Witchcraft! "Hex" means "witch" or "bewitch."

HASTILY PUTTING ON A JACKET, DICK DASHES FROM THE COURT!

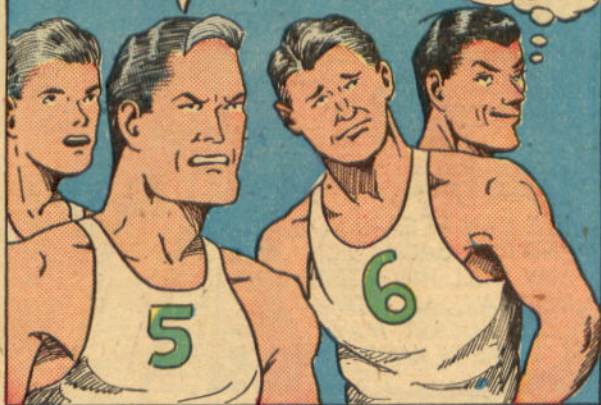
COLE! WHERE ARE YOU GOING? WHAT'S GOT INTO YOU? THE GAME'S ABOUT TO START!

SORRY, BUT THIS IS MORE IMPORTANT, COACH BRADLY!



PFAW! A TYPICAL GRANDSTAND COLE STUNT! WANTS TO PLAY HERO AT SOMETHING, JUST WHEN WE NEED HIM!

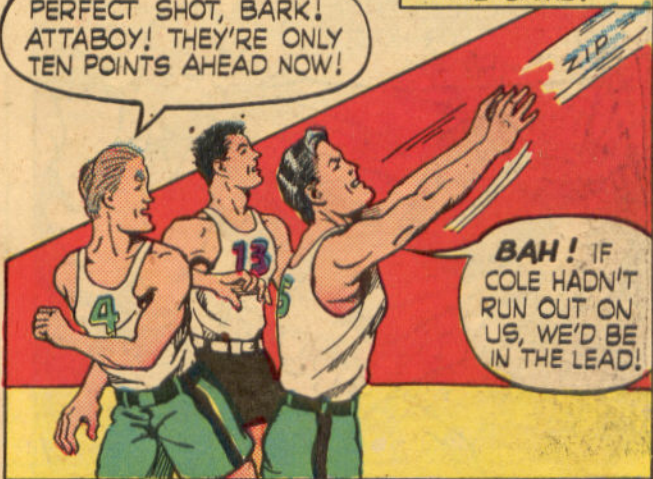
YIPEE! THERE HE GOES! IT WORKED PERFECTLY!



THE GAME IS ON AND HEX GETS WILSON OFF TO A GOOD START WITH A LAYUP SHOT.

BARK HALL'S SKILLFUL PLAY KEEPS FARR IN THE GAME.

PERFECT SHOT, BARK! ATTABOY! THEY'RE ONLY TEN POINTS AHEAD NOW!



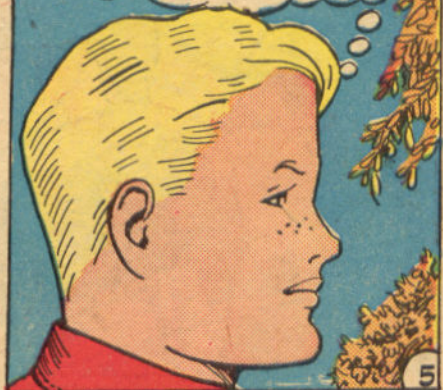
BAH! IF COLE HADN'T RUN OUT ON US, WE'D BE IN THE LEAD!

MEANWHILE... THERE'S THE CAMP UP AHEAD AND I'LL BET YOUR BIG BROTHER'S ON HIS WAY RIGHT NOW!

GOSH, IF DICK LEAVES THE GAME AND RUNS ALL THE WAY OUT HERE TO GET ME, THE GAME'LL BE OVER BY THE TIME WE GET BACK!



DICK WON'T GET A CHANCE TO PLAY, AND FARR WILL LOSE... UNLESS I DO SOMETHING IN A HURRY!



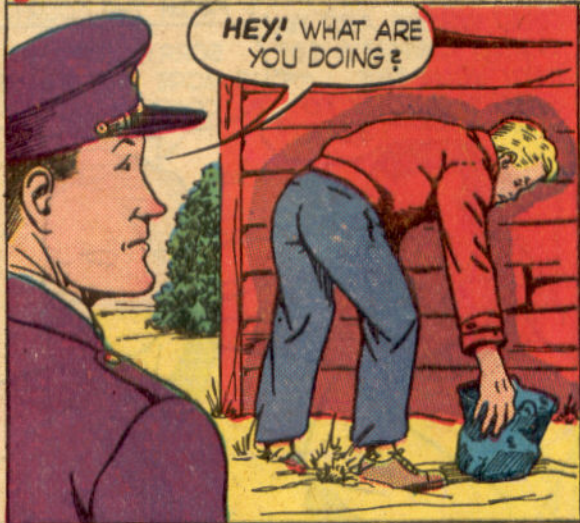
Q 2 Are there nine, eight, seven, or five players on a mens' basketball team?

HERE WE ARE! LOOK AT THAT OLD LOG! BET ONE PUSH WOULD SEND IT SHOOTIN' DOWN INTO THE POND LIKE OLD DAYS, EH, MILT?



IF I CAN ESCAPE NOW, AND RUN BACK, DICK MAY STILL HAVE TIME TO PLAY.. AH... THIS OLD BUCKET MAY COME IN HANDY!

SWIFTLY, ROD STOOPS AND GRABS THE BUCKET!



HEY! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

PIVOTING SWIFTLY, ROD HURLS THE BUCKET...



AH! I PRACTICED THAT PIVOT SHOT FOR HOURS!... IT WORKS!

SPLAT!

THEN DASHES FOR THE LOG ON THE CHUTE!

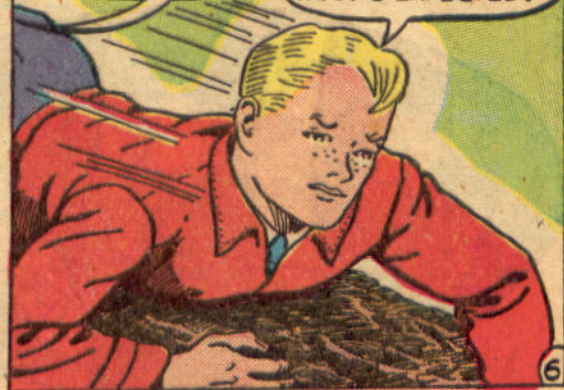


COME BACK HERE, YOU LITTLE WISE GUY!



HOPE I CAN SHOOT THE CHUTE!

ROD'S LEAP STARTS THE LOG DOWN THE CHUTE! AFTER HIM! DON'T LET HIM GET AWAY!

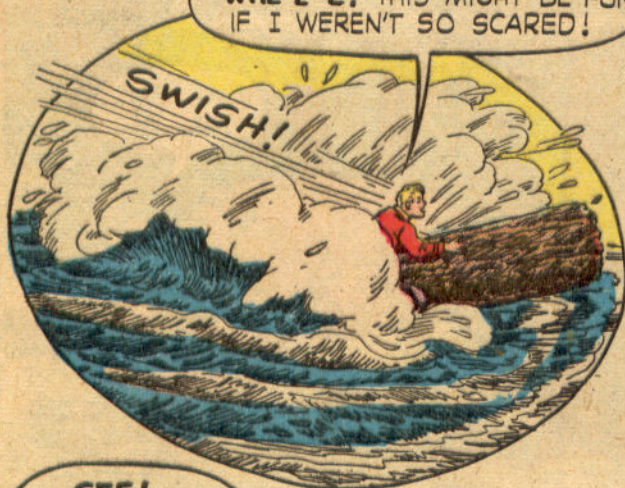


ULP! I'M GOING FASTER THAN I EXPECTED!

6

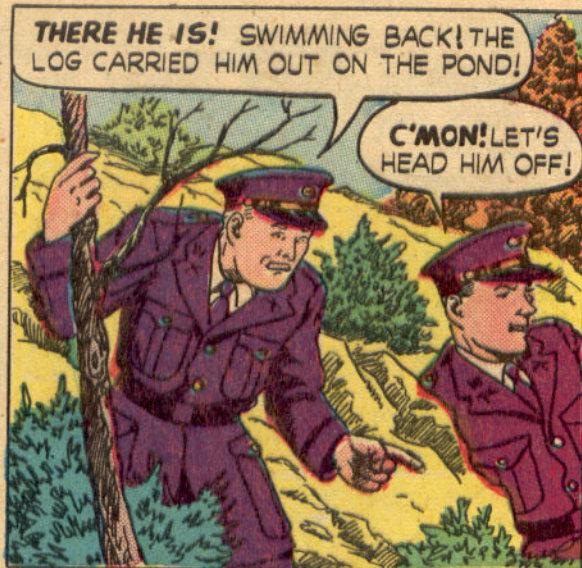
THE LOG HITS THE WATER WITH A TREMENDOUS SPLASH!

WHE-E-E! THIS MIGHT BE FUN,
IF I WEREN'T SO SCARED!

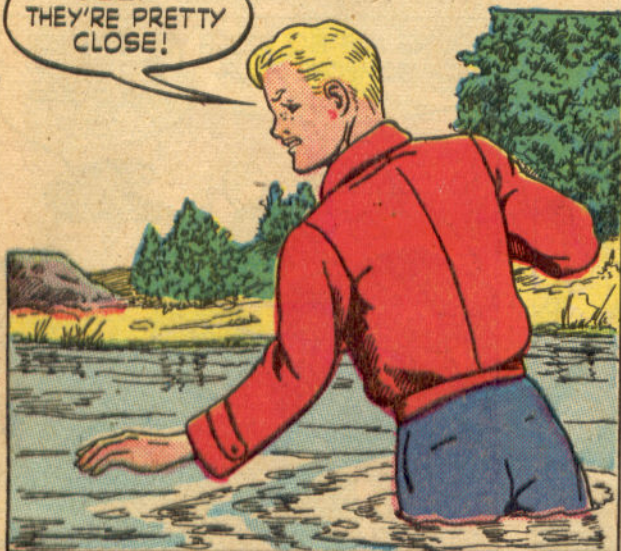


THERE HE IS! SWIMMING BACK! THE
LOG CARRIED HIM OUT ON THE POND!

C'MON! LET'S
HEAD HIM OFF!

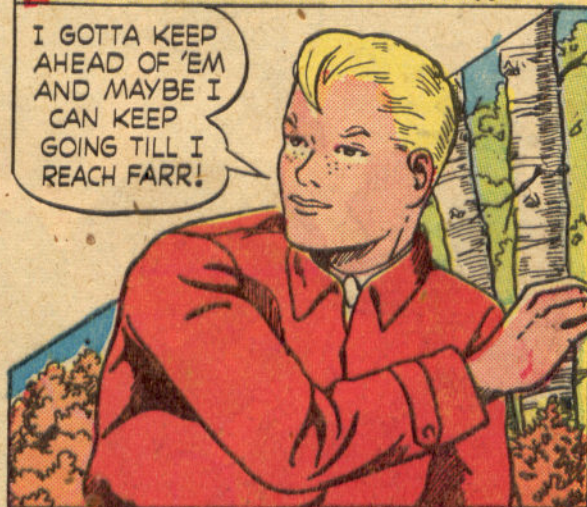


GEE!
THEY'RE PRETTY
CLOSE!



ROD SCRAMBLES ONTO THE BANK.

I GOTTA KEEP
AHEAD OF 'EM
AND MAYBE I
CAN KEEP
GOING TILL I
REACH FARR!

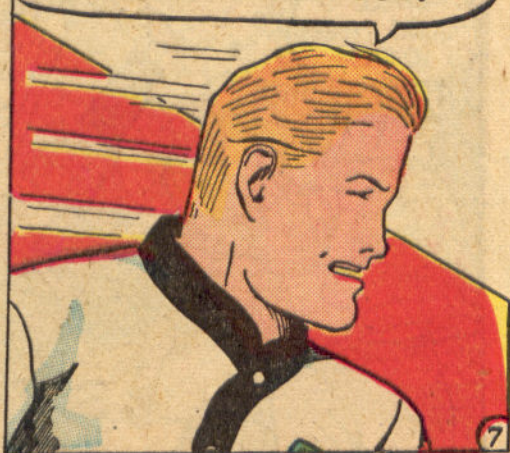


FURIOUS AT THE THOUGHT OF ROD'S KIDNAPPING,
DICK HAS REACHED A POINT SEVERAL MILES FROM
THE LUMBER CAMP.

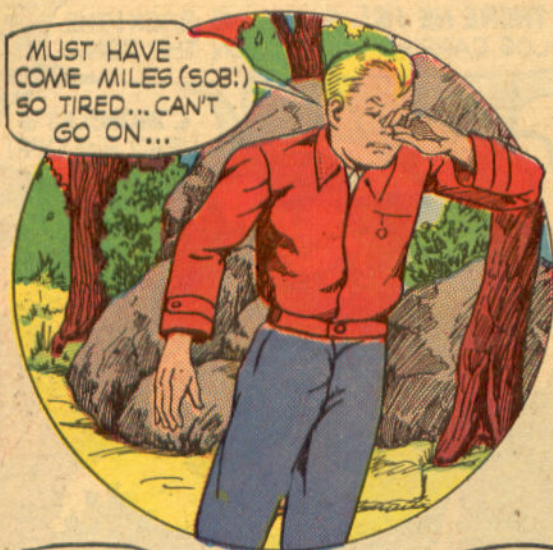
PICK ON A KID, WILL THEY? JUST
WAIT TILL I GET MY HANDS ON
THOSE HEELS!



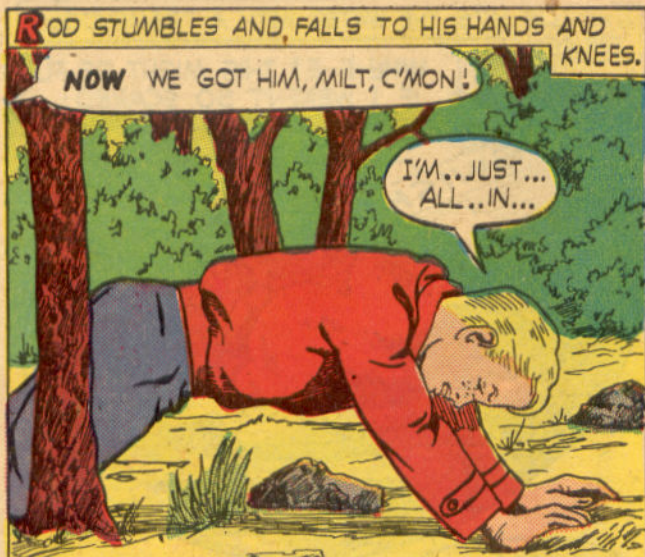
HELLO! SOMEONE HEADING THIS
WAY... WHY... IT'S ROD! GOOD!



Q 3 Make a five-letter word starting with "st" from the letters in "tremendous."

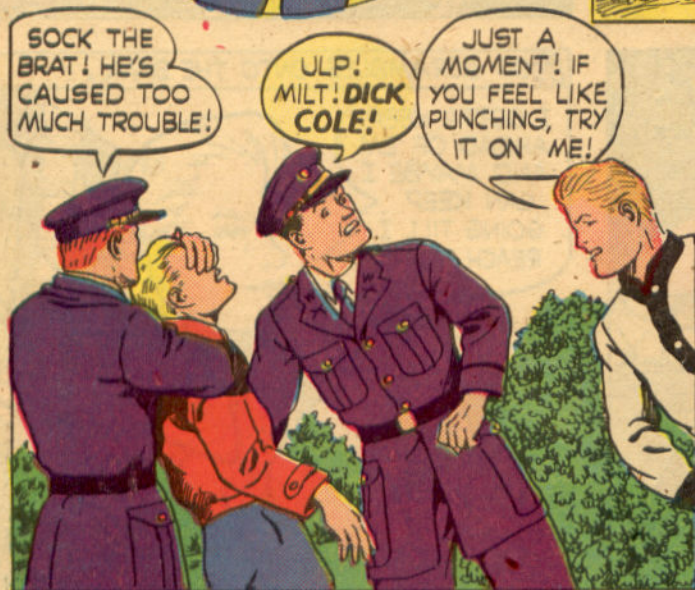


MUST HAVE
COME MILES (SOB!)
SO TIRED... CAN'T
GO ON...



ROD STUMBLES AND, FALLS TO HIS HANDS AND
NOW WE GOT HIM, MILT, C'MON! **KNEES.**

I'M...JUST...
ALL...IN...



SOCK THE
BRAT! HE'S
CAUSED TOO
MUCH TROUBLE!

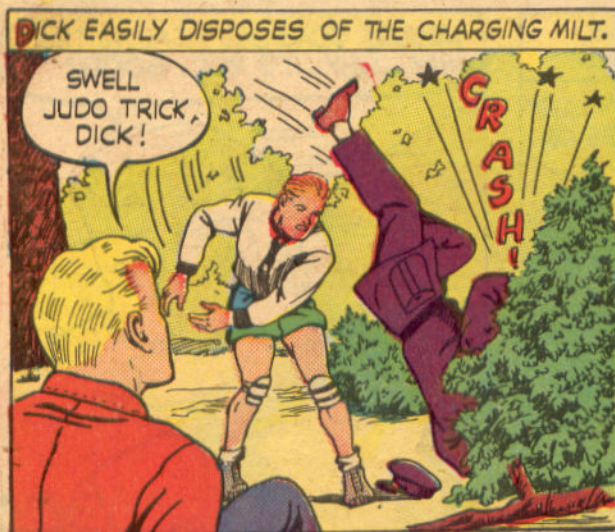
ULP!
MILT: **DICK
COLE!**

JUST A
MOMENT! IF
YOU FEEL LIKE
PUNCHING, TRY
IT ON ME!



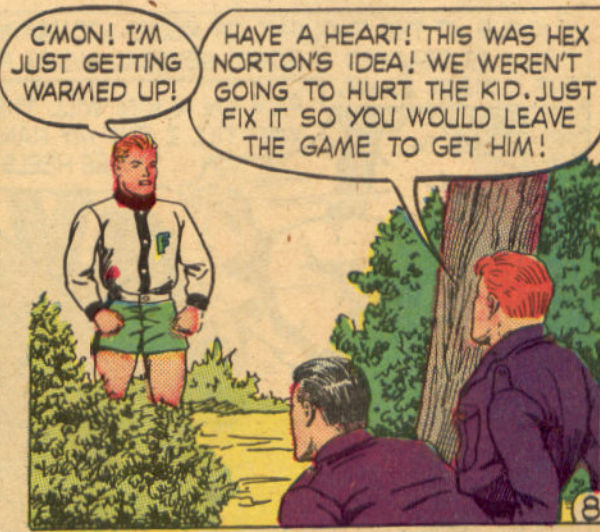
YOU'RE NOT SO TOUGH
WITH SOMEONE YOUR
SIZE!

WE'RE NOT
AFRAID OF
YOUR REP,
COLE!



SWELL
JUDO TRICK,
DICK!

CRASH!

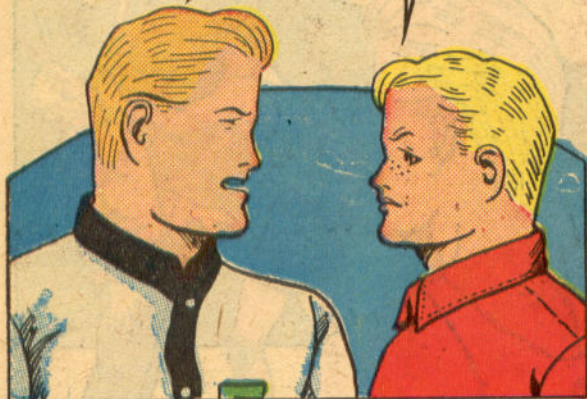


C'MON! I'M
JUST GETTING
WARMED UP!

HAVE A HEART! THIS WAS HEX
NORTON'S IDEA! WE WEREN'T
GOING TO HURT THE KID. JUST
FIX IT SO YOU WOULD LEAVE
THE GAME TO GET HIM!

SO HEX NORTON IS THE MASTERMIND, EH? BOY, IS HE IN FOR A SHOCK!

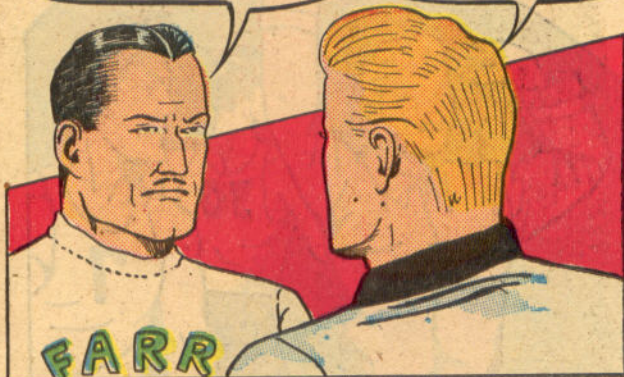
LET'S HURRY BACK, DICK! I'VE GOT MY WIND BACK!



DICK AND ROD, HELPED BY A PASSING MOTORIST, REACH THE GYM BEFORE THE THIRD QUARTER IS OVER.

IT'S ABOUT TIME, COLE! WE'RE TWELVE POINTS BEHIND! HEX NORTON IS RUNNING WILD!

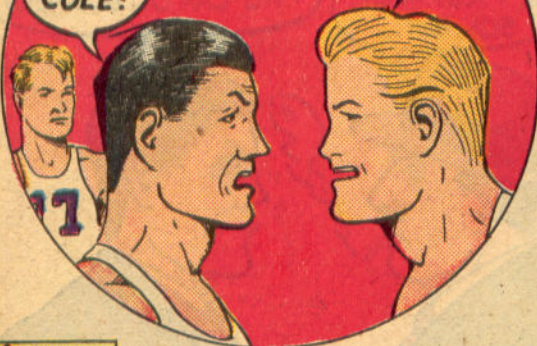
PUT ME IN, COACH! I'D LOVE TO TAME MR. NORTON!



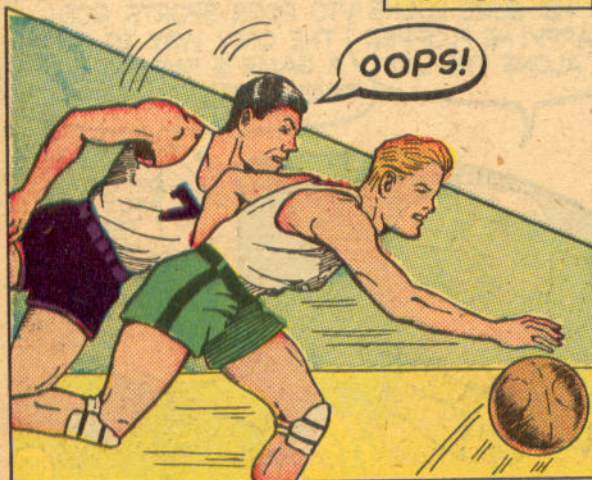
A MOMENT LATER...

MY BROTHER UPSET YOUR TIMETABLE BY ESCAPING! THANKS TO HIM, I'M BACK IN TIME TO TAKE YOU ON, NORTON!

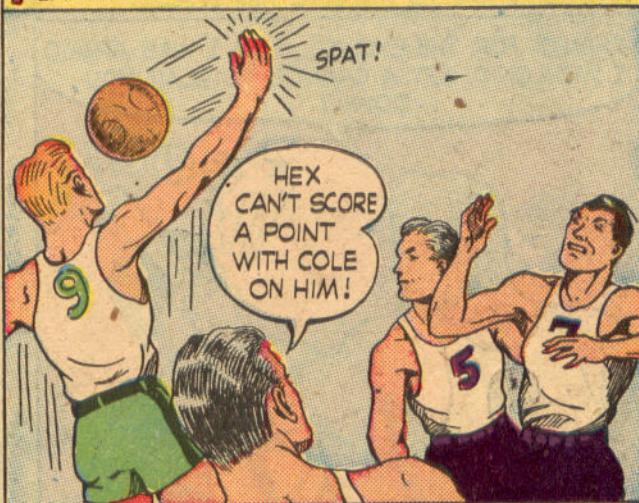
AWK! COLE!



ON THE OFFENSE, DICK'S SWIFT FEINTS THREW HEX OFF BALANCE.



PLAYING IN A COLD FURY, DICK BOTTLES UP HEX.



IN THE FOURTH QUARTER...

THAT'S THE STUFF, COLE! THAT TIES UP THE GAME!

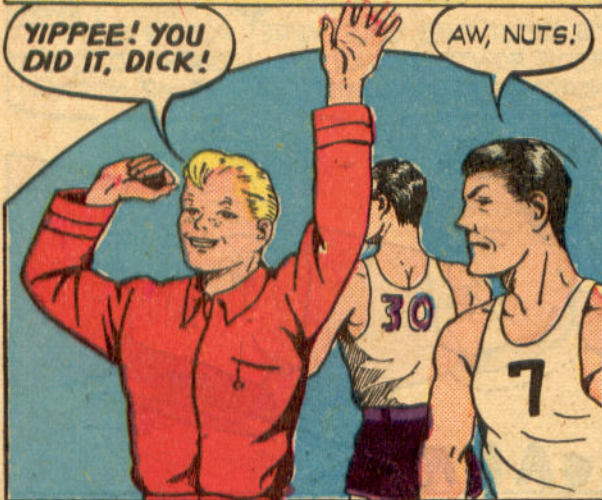


Q 4 Is basketball a sport of American, Swedish, or Japanese origin?

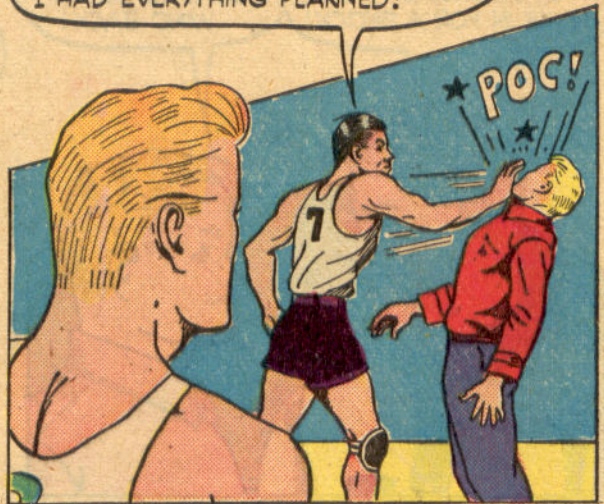
WITH DICK SPARKING THE RALLY, FARR WINS THE CHAMPIONSHIP GAME 54-49!

YIPPEE! YOU DID IT, DICK!

AW, NUTS!

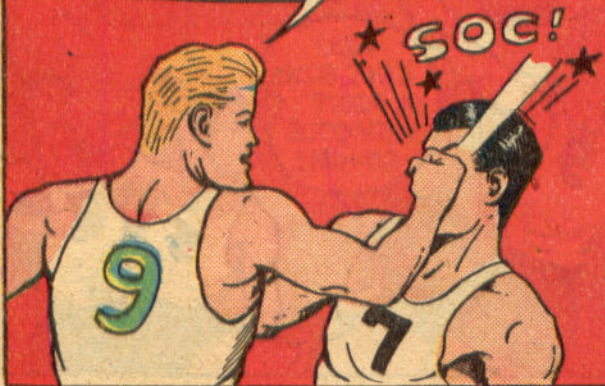


YOU SPOILED IT, YOU LITTLE TWERP! I HAD EVERYTHING PLANNED!



DICK SPRINGS TO HIS BROTHER'S AID...

THANKS FOR THE EXCUSE, HEX! I WAS AFRAID I WOULDN'T GET A CHANCE TO SLAP YOU DOWN!



LATER, HEX TRIES TO SALVAGE SOMETHING FROM THE GAME BY APPROACHING THE PRO SCOUT...

HUH! YOU LOOKED PRETTY GOOD IN THE FIRST HALF, SON, BUT...

I'D LIKE TO GET A JOB ON A PRO TEAM. MAKE A DECENT OFFER AND WE CAN DO BUSINESS.



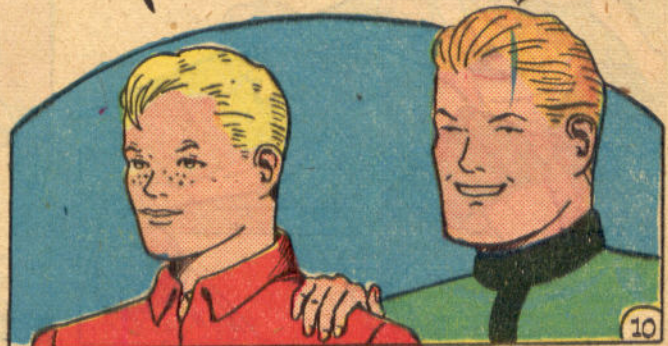
... AS SOON AS YOU MET SOME REAL OPPOSITION, YOU FIZZLED OUT! WE CAN'T USE A FLASH-IN-THE-PAN!

GULP!



THERE GOES HEX AND HE SURE LOOKS UNHAPPY! HE FLOPPED ALL ALONG THE LINE!

THAT ALWAYS HAPPENS TO POOR SPORTS, ROD! THE ONLY WAY TO PLAY A GAME IS FAIR AND SQUARE. THAT **ALWAYS** PAYS OFF!



A 4 American. It was created at Springfield, Mass. by Dr. James A. Naismith in 1891.

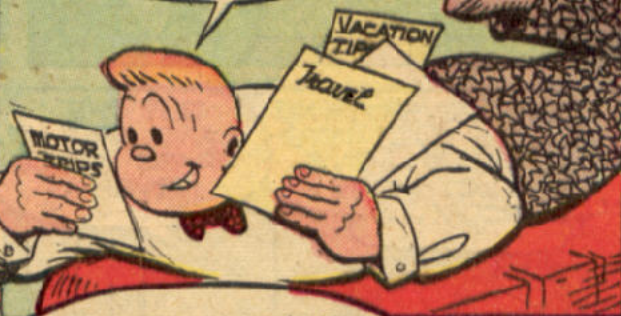
GROVER AND BONNIE

in The HOUSE OF MAGIC.

WHEN GROVER CLUMP, SALESMAN FOR TERRIFIC TICK TOCK CORP., CLOCK MANUFACTURERS, TRIES TO MAKE HOUSEWORK EASIER FOR HIS BRIDE, BONNIE, PHONE OPERATOR AT THE SAME FIRM, HE GETS THEM BOTH IN A PACK OF TROUBLE.



LET'S SPEND OUR VACATION AT HOME THIS YEAR, BONNIE. I NEED A GOOD REST.



YOU THOUGHT! YOU NEVER THINK OF ME, I SLAVE ALL DAY AT THE OFFICE AND THEN COME HOME AND DO ALL THE HOUSEWORK. WHAT WE NEED IS A MAID.

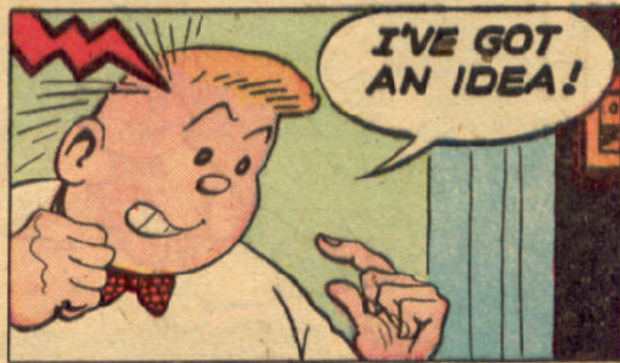
YOU NEED A REST! HOW ABOUT ME? VACATION AT HOME, HUH? COOKING, DISHWASHING, SWEEPING ... A FINE VACATION FOR ME!

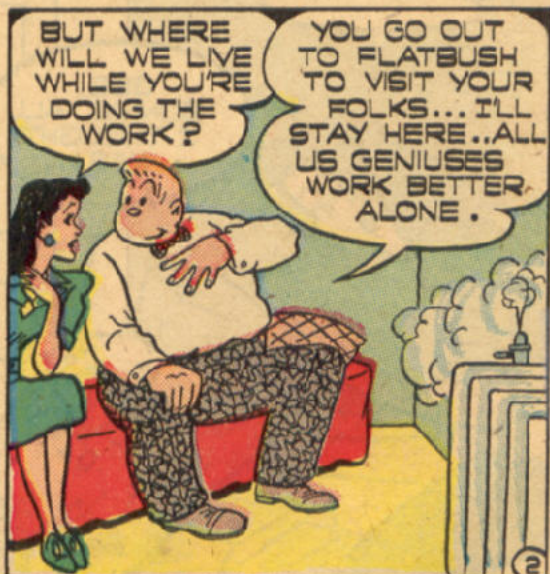
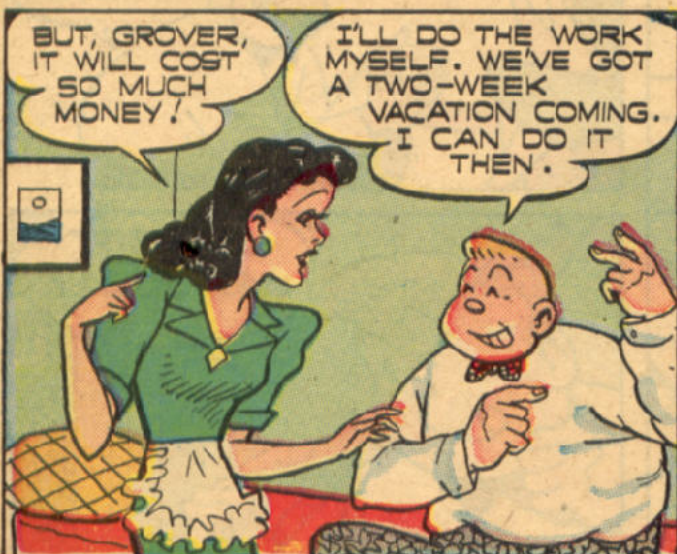
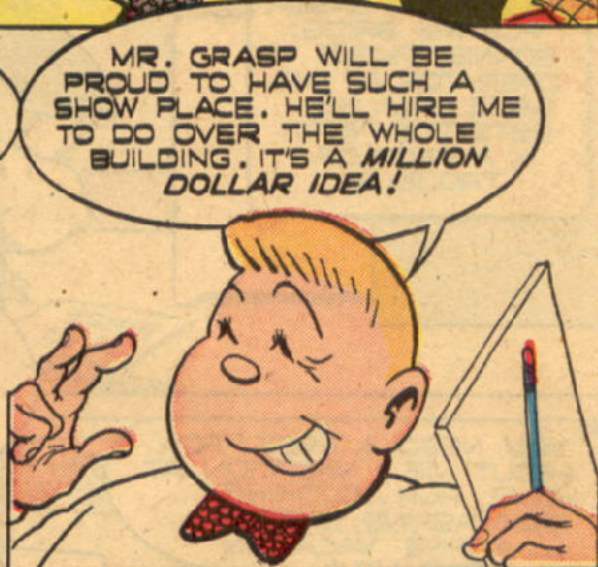
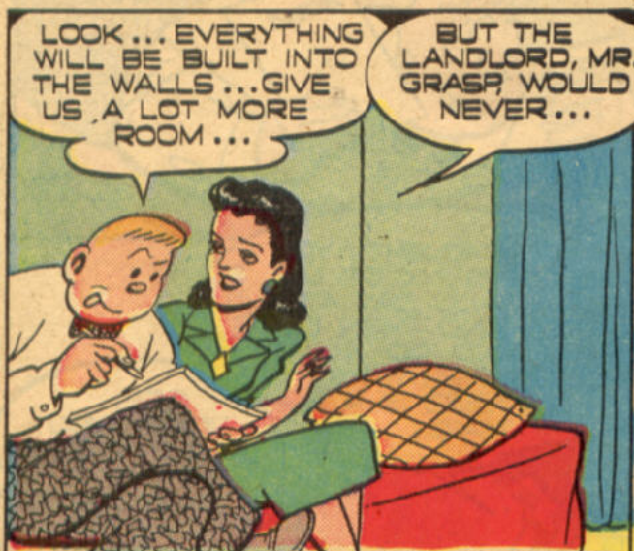
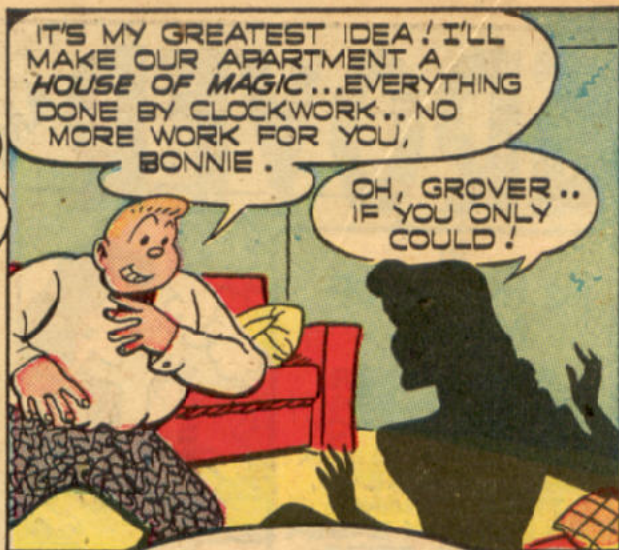
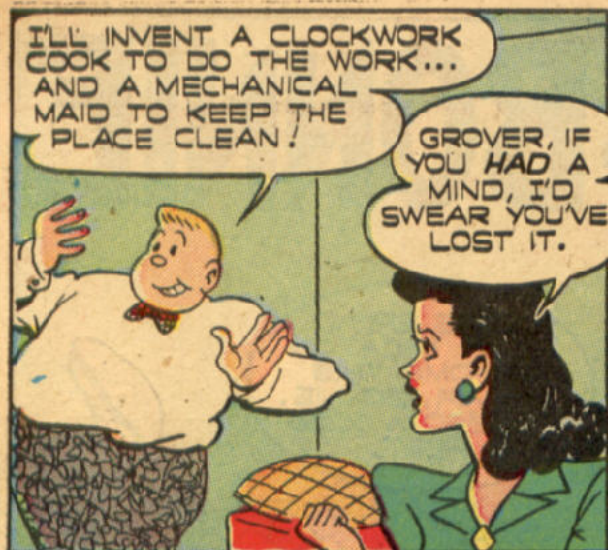
GEE, HONEY, YOU KNOW WE CAN'T AFFORD A MAID ... BUT ... WAIT A MINUTE...

GEE, BONNIE, ALL I THOUGHT WAS ...

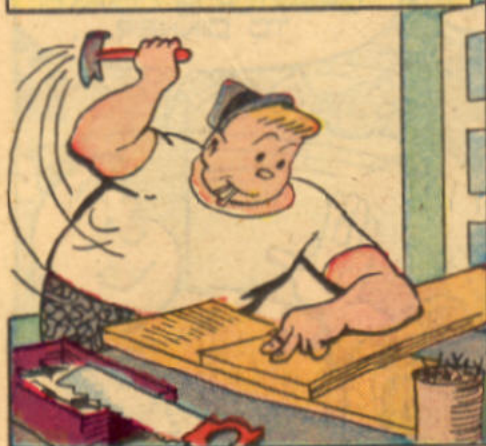


I'VE GOT AN IDEA!





AND SO GROVER BUILDS HIS HOUSE OF MAGIC. TWO WEEKS PASS BY.

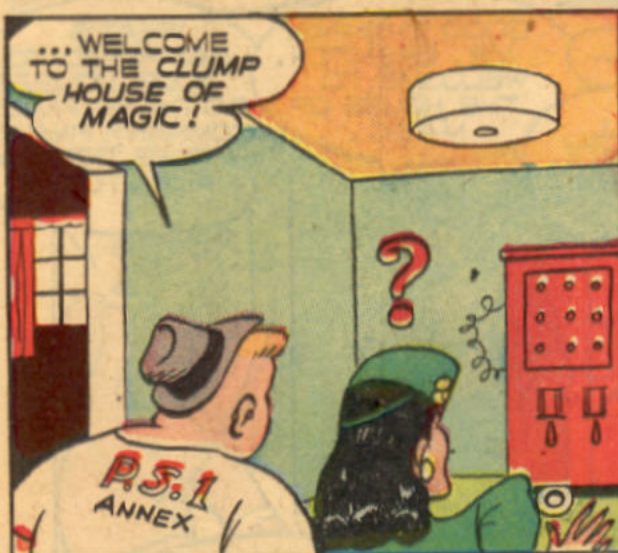


OH, GROVER... DID YOU MISS ME?

WELCOME HOME, BONNIE, AND...



... WELCOME TO THE CLUMP HOUSE OF MAGIC!



GROVER, WHERE IS ALL THE FURNITURE? EVERYTHING IS GONE!

NOT GONE, MY SWEET, JUST TUCKED AWAY IN THE WALLS... AWAITING THE TOUCH OF A BUTTON. WON'T YOU TAKE OFF YOUR HAT?

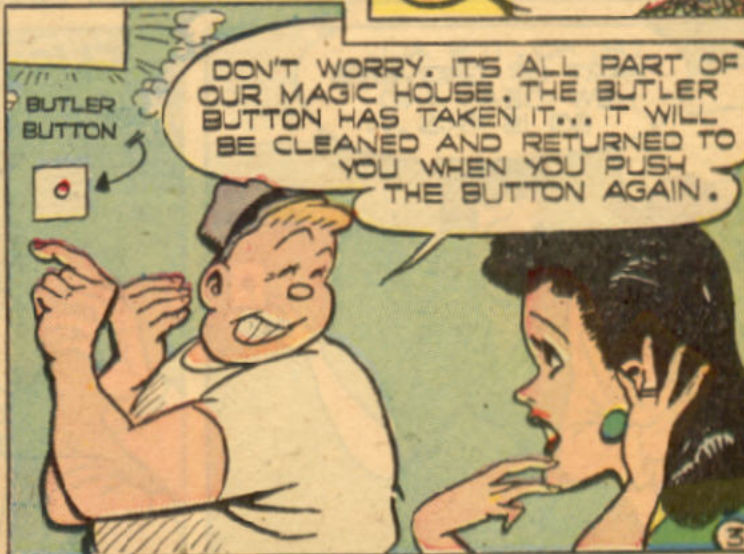


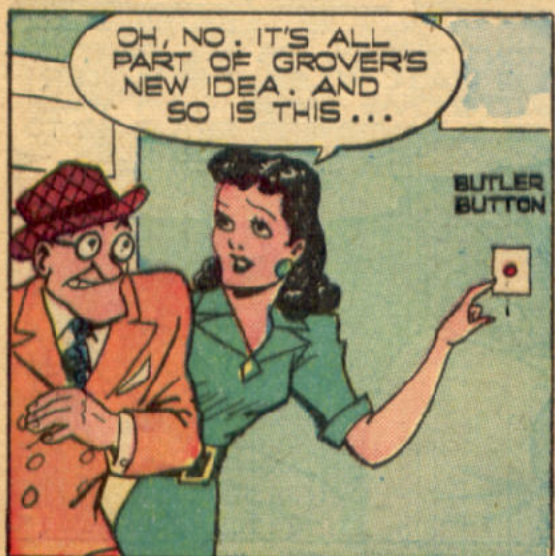
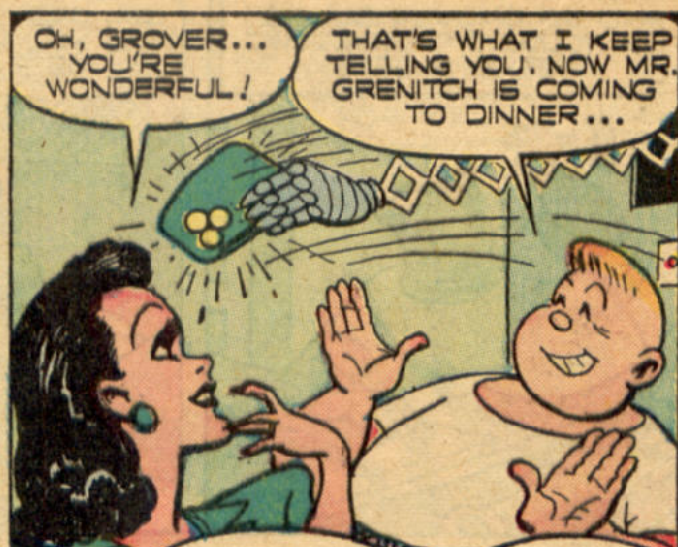
GROVER, MY NEW HAT... IT'S GONE!

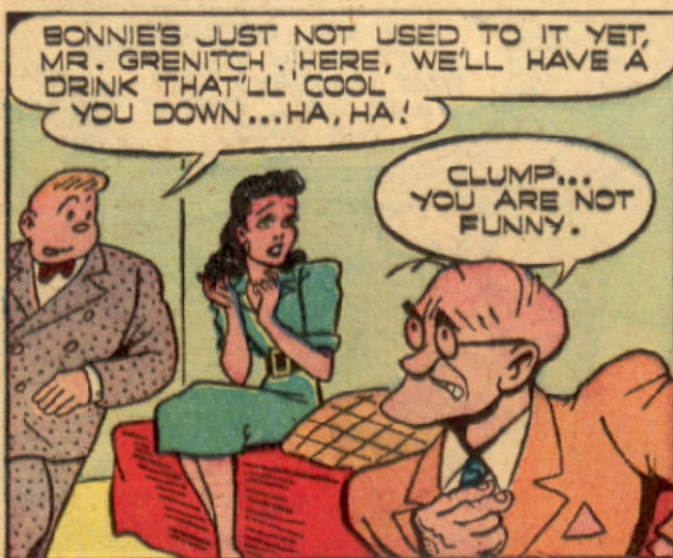
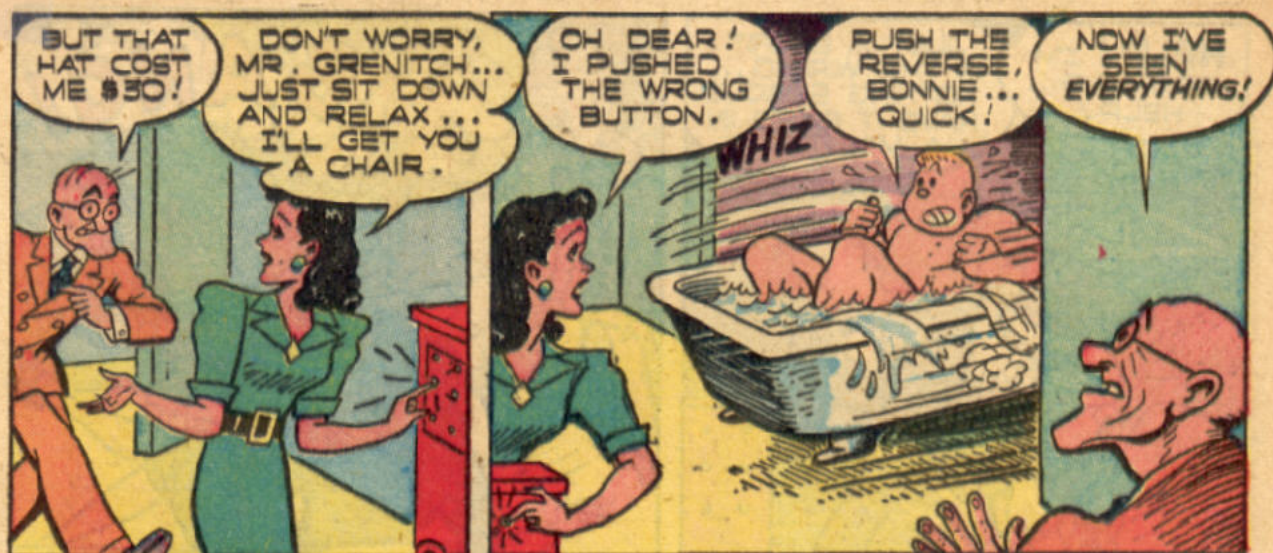


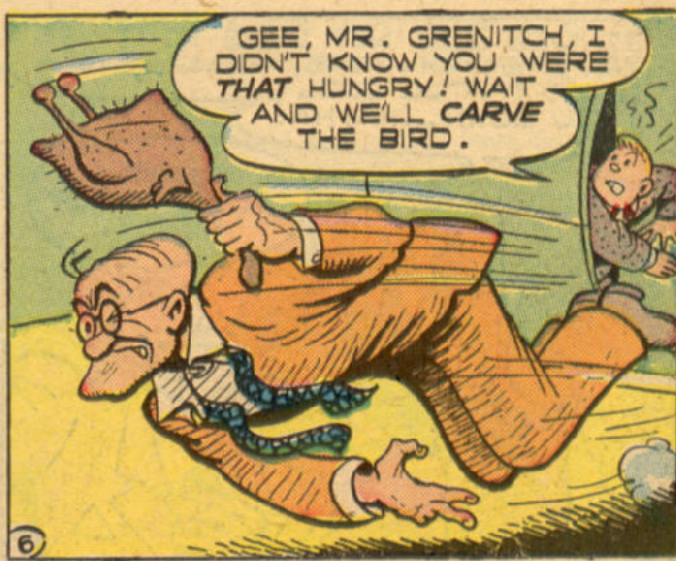
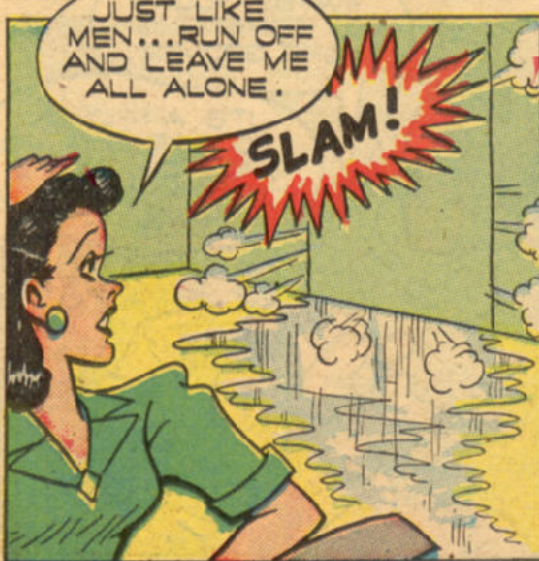
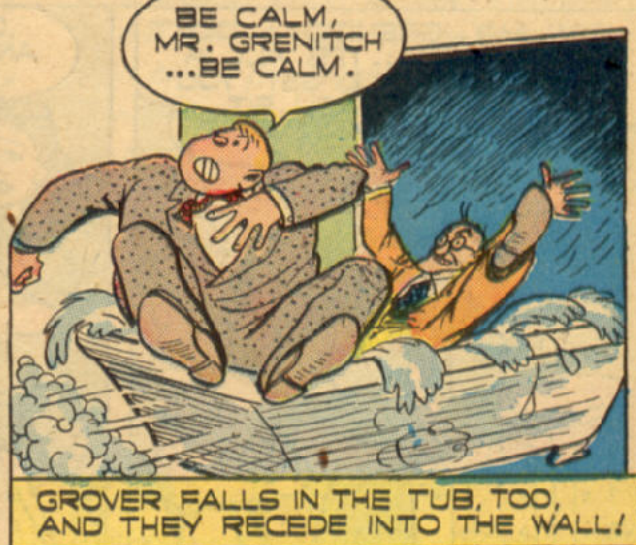
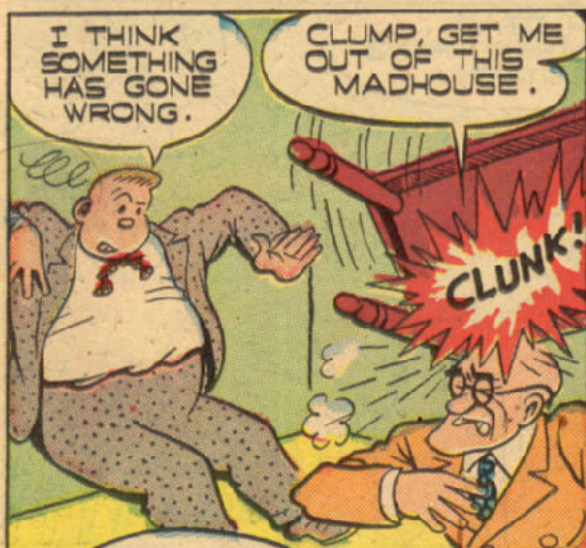
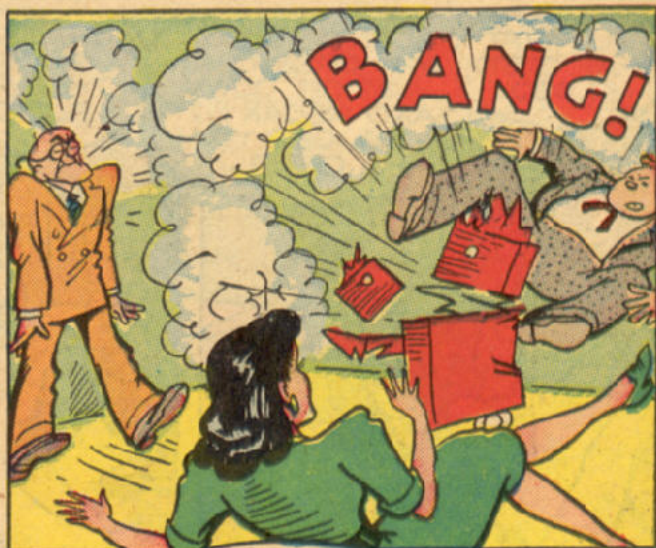
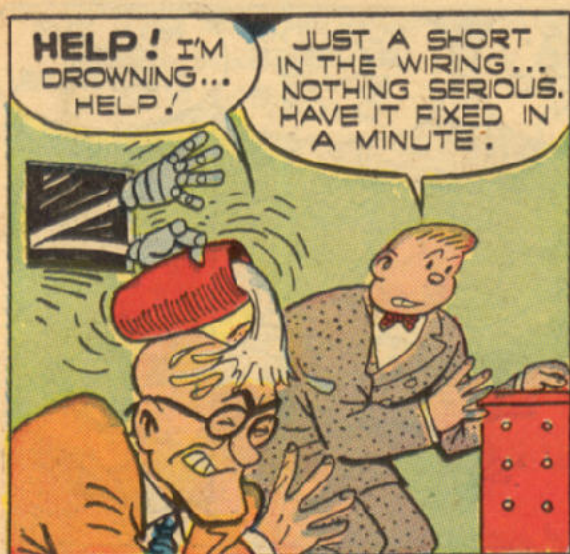
BUTLER BUTTON

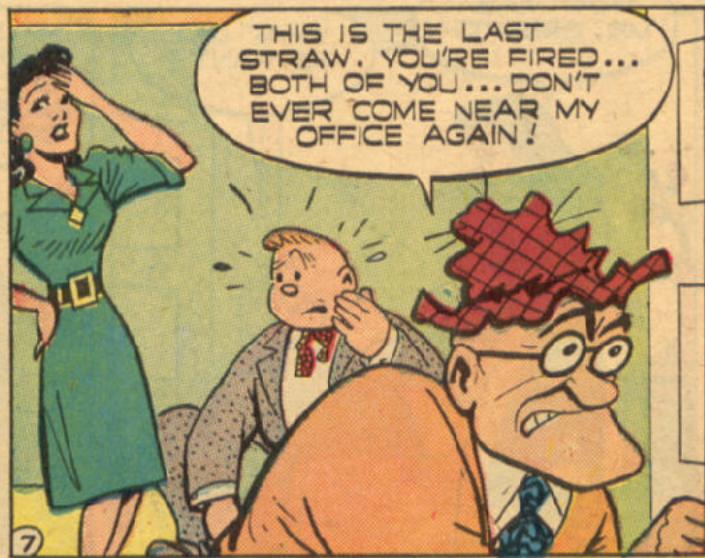
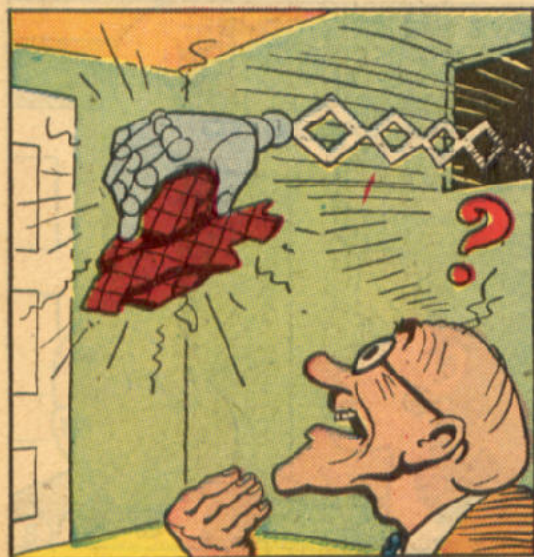
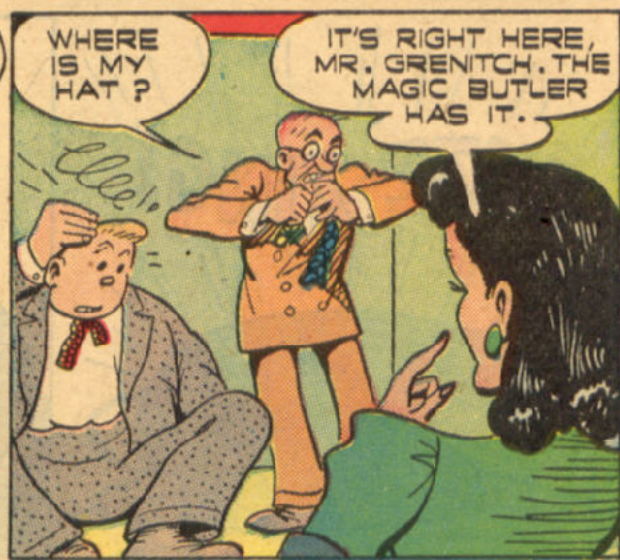
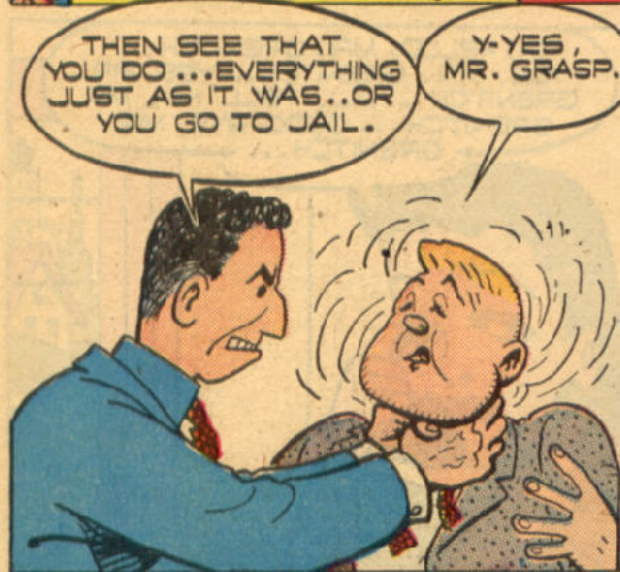
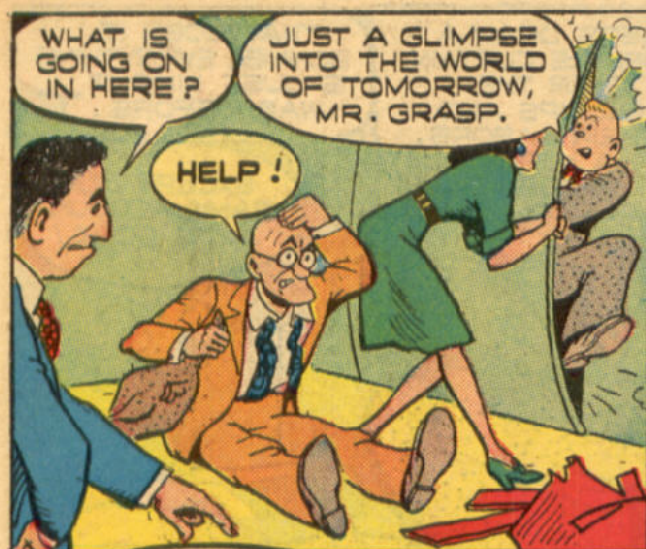
DON'T WORRY. IT'S ALL PART OF OUR MAGIC HOUSE. THE BUTLER BUTTON HAS TAKEN IT... IT WILL BE CLEANED AND RETURNED TO YOU WHEN YOU PUSH THE BUTTON AGAIN.

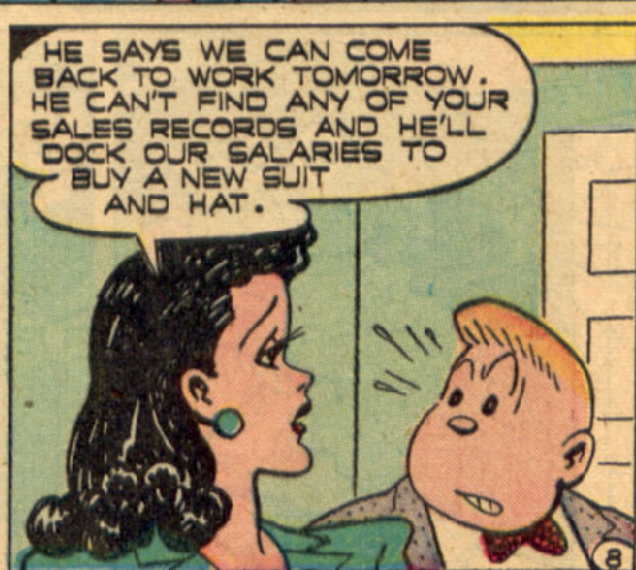
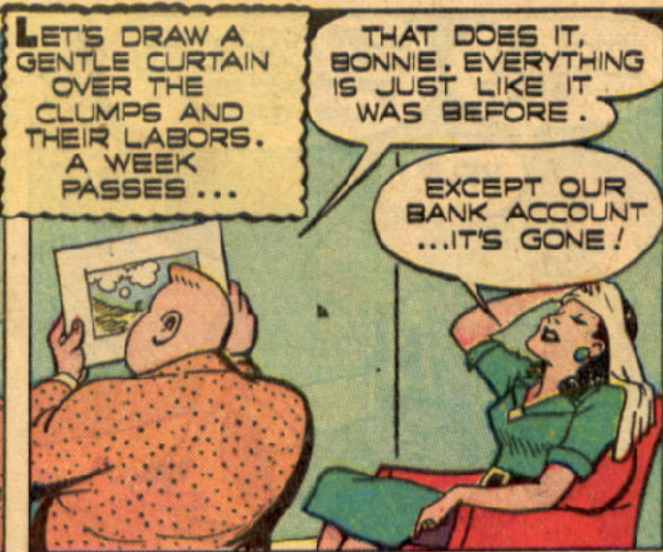








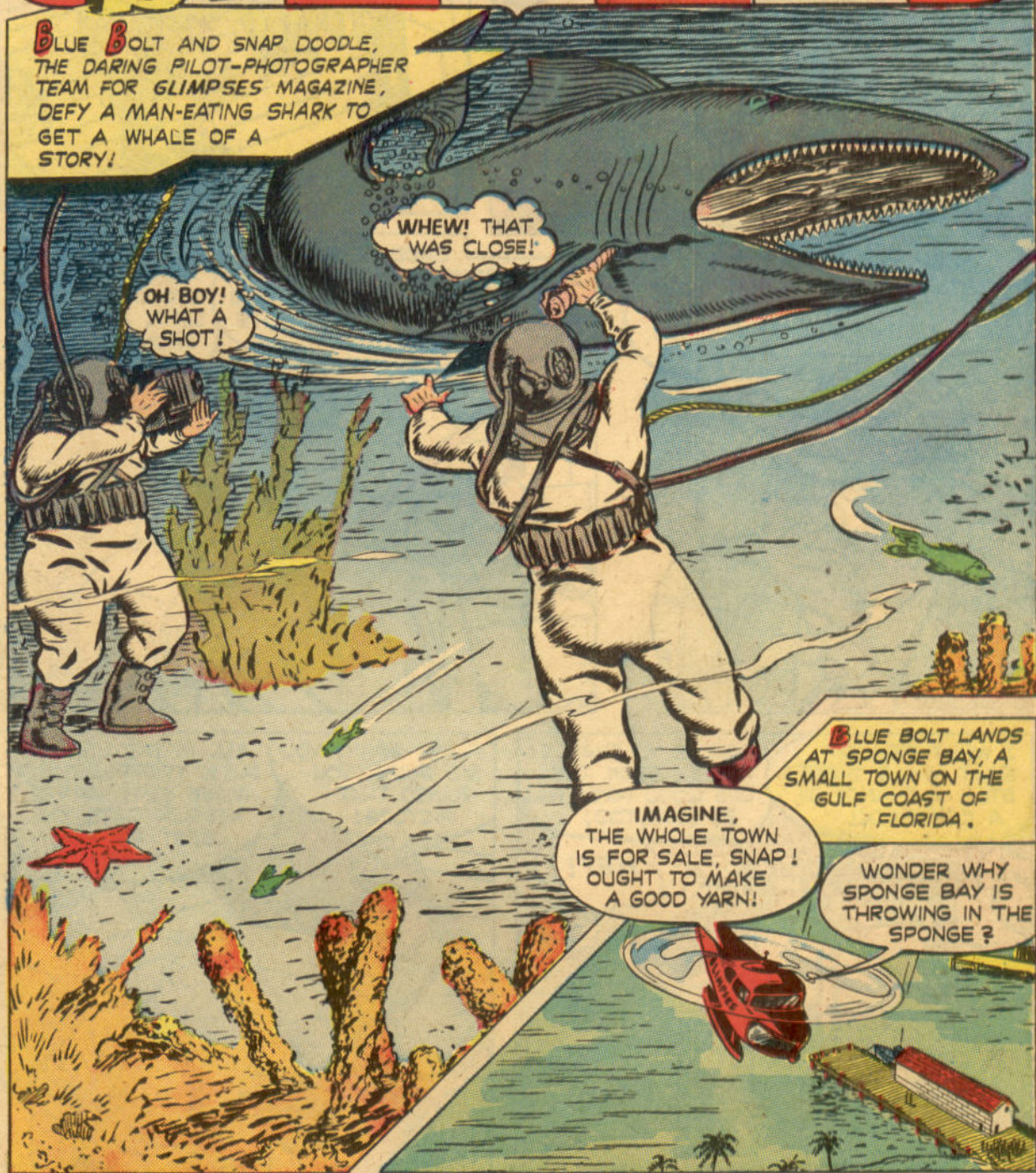




BLUE BOLT

THE AMERICAN

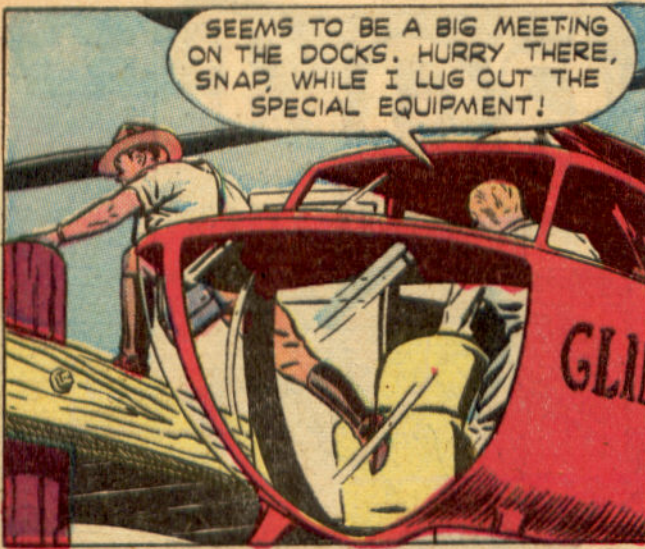
BLUE **B**OLT AND SNAP DOODLE, THE DARING PILOT-PHOTOGRAPHER TEAM FOR GLIMPSES MAGAZINE, DEFEAT A MAN-EATING SHARK TO GET A WHOLE OF A STORY!



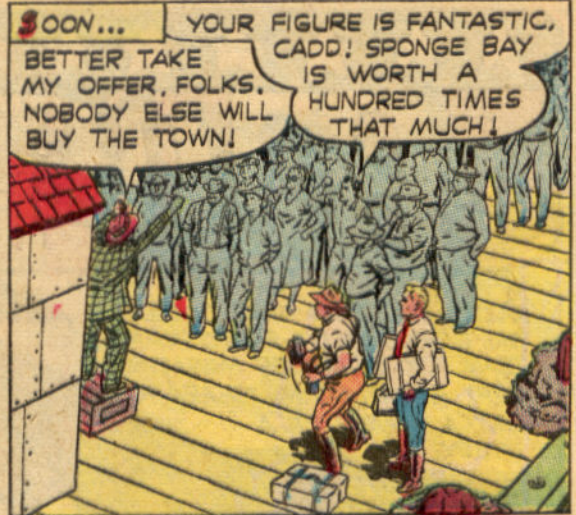
BLUE BOLT LANDS AT SPONGE BAY, A SMALL TOWN ON THE GULF COAST OF FLORIDA.

IMAGINE, THE WHOLE TOWN IS FOR SALE, SNAP! OUGHT TO MAKE A GOOD YARN!

WONDER WHY SPONGE BAY IS THROWING IN THE SPONGE?



SEEMS TO BE A BIG MEETING ON THE DOCKS. HURRY THERE, SNAP, WHILE I LUG OUT THE SPECIAL EQUIPMENT!



SOON...
BETTER TAKE MY OFFER, FOLKS. NOBODY ELSE WILL BUY THE TOWN!

YOUR FIGURE IS FANTASTIC, CADD! SPONGE BAY IS WORTH A HUNDRED TIMES THAT MUCH!

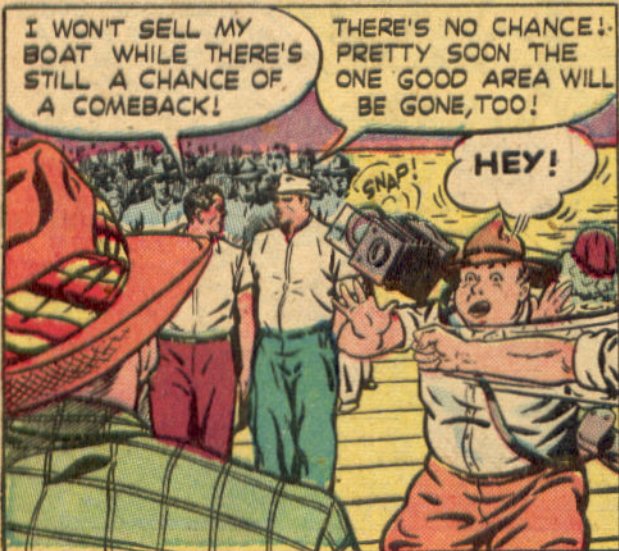


IT WAS ONCE ... BUT IT'S WORTHLESS NOW! WHAT GOOD IS A SPONGE-DIVING CENTER IF A PLAGUE IS KILLING ALL THE SPONGES?



CADD IS RIGHT, JOE. SPONGE BAY AIN'T WORTH A CENT NOW THAT THE PLAGUE IS HERE. WE BETTER TAKE HIS OFFER!

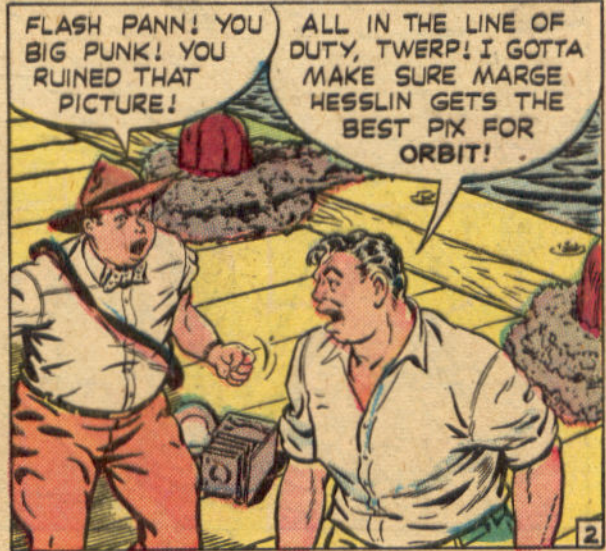
BUT THERE'S STILL ONE GOOD SPONGING AREA LEFT. MAYBE THE SPONGES CAN OVERCOME THE PLAGUE!



I WON'T SELL MY BOAT WHILE THERE'S STILL A CHANCE OF A COMEBACK!

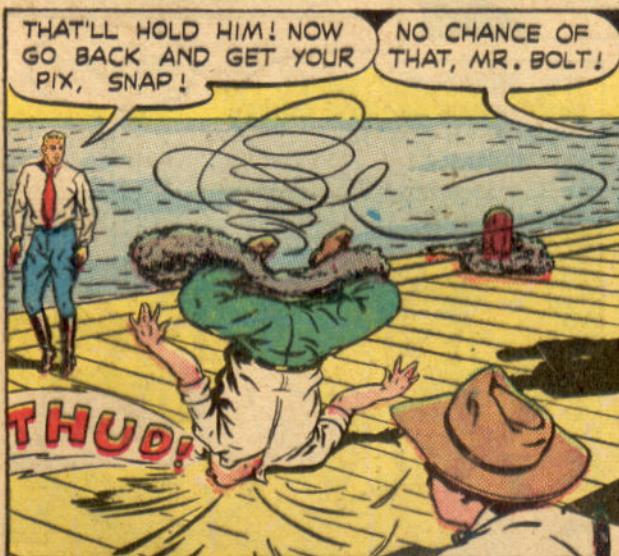
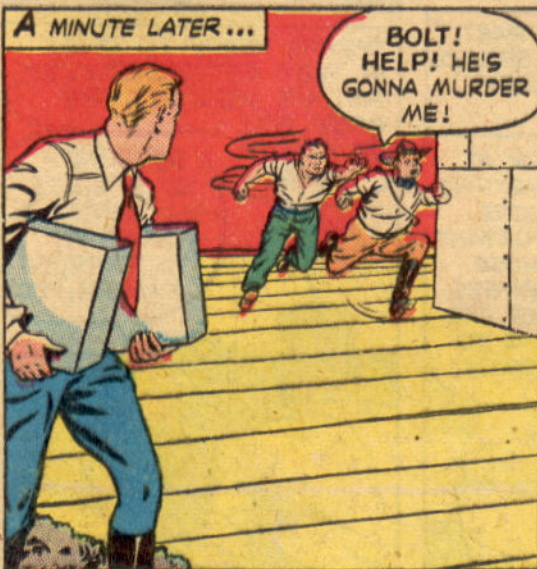
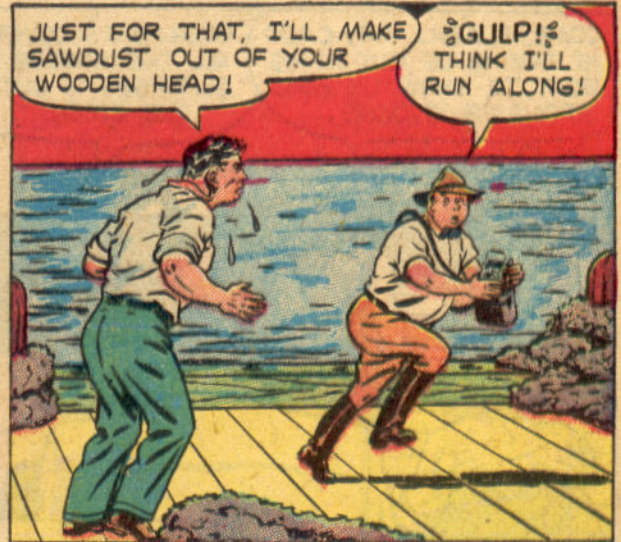
THERE'S NO CHANCE! PRETTY SOON THE ONE GOOD AREA WILL BE GONE, TOO!

HEY!



FLASH PANN! YOU BIG PUNK! YOU RUINED THAT PICTURE!

ALL IN THE LINE OF DUTY, TWERP! I GOTTA MAKE SURE MARGE HESSLIN GETS THE BEST PIX FOR ORBIT!

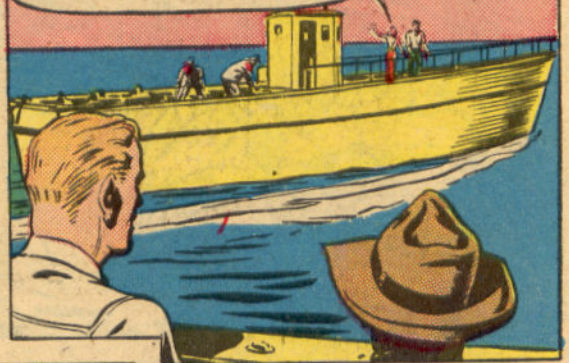
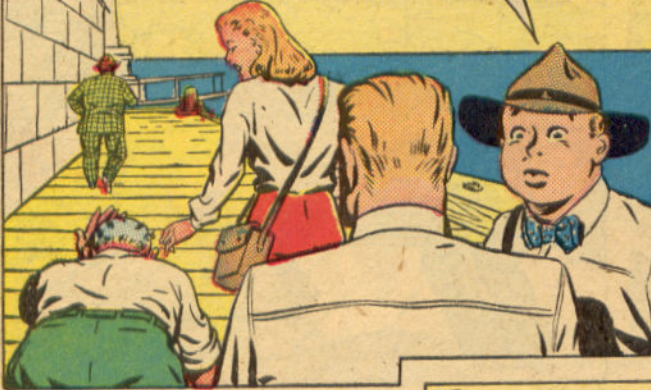


Q10 Which constitutional amendment assured citizens the right to vote regardless of sex?

COME, FLASH! MR. CADD IS TAKING US OUT IN HIS BOAT TO SHOW US HOW SPONGING IS DONE.

GOSH! SHE'S COVERED. ALL THE ANGLES, BOLT! GLIMPSES IS OUT IN THE COLD!

TOODLE-OOO-OO! SEE THE NEXT ISSUE OF ORBIT FOR A GOOD YARN ON SPONGE-DIVING, AND THE MAN WHO'S GOING TO BUY A WHOLE TOWN!



MARGE MAY HAVE THE CADD STORY ALL SEWED UP, SNAP, BUT WE CAN STILL OUTSHINE HER WITH OUR SPONGE-DIVING COVERAGE! SO THAT'S WHY YOU MADE ME BRING ALONG AN UNDERWATER CAMERA!

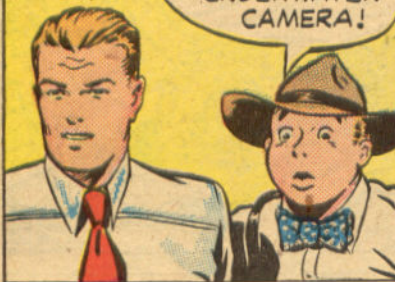
SOON, AT THE ONLY PART OF THE SPONGING GROUNDS STILL UNTOUCHED BY PLAGUE...

OH DEAR, I WISH I COULD SEE WHAT MR. CADD IS DOING DOWN THERE!

LOOK AT SOMETHING MORE IMPORTANT! THOSE GLIMPSES PUNKS ARE TRYING TO SCOOP US!

THEY'RE READY TO DIVE! IF THEY GET UNDERWATER PIX, AND WE DON'T, THE BOSS WILL BE PLENTY SORE!

DOGGONE BLUE BOLT! WHY DIDN'T I BRING A WATERPROOF CAMERA, TOO!



FLASH! WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

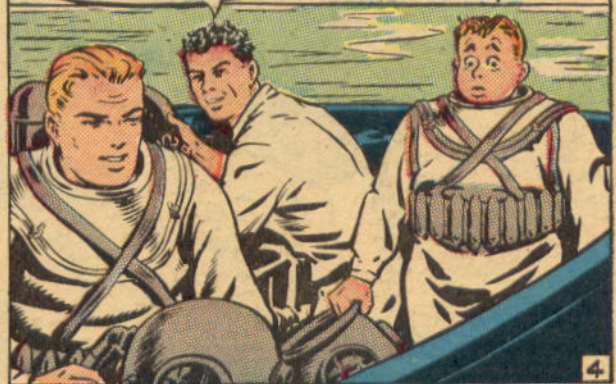
JUST PAYING A SOCIAL CALL ON OUR NEIGHBORS!

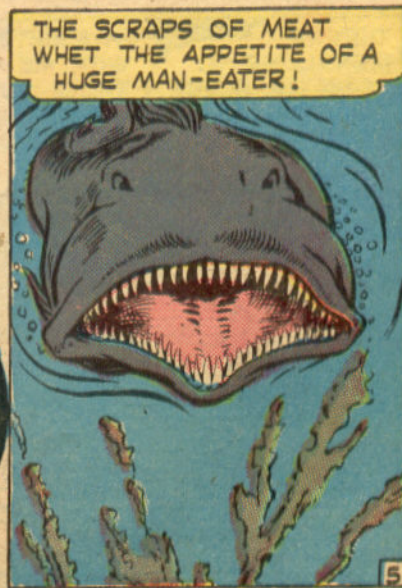
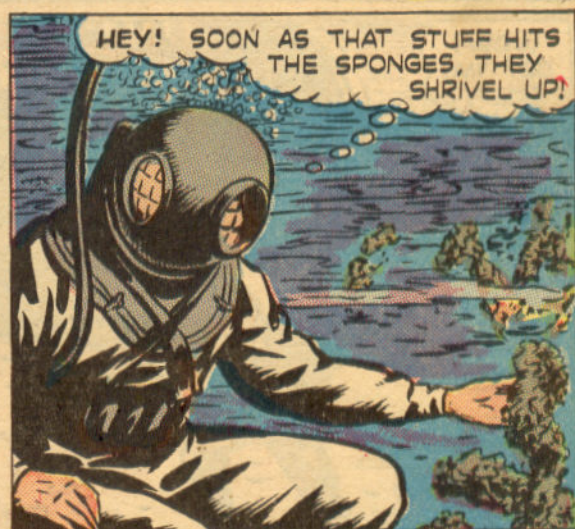
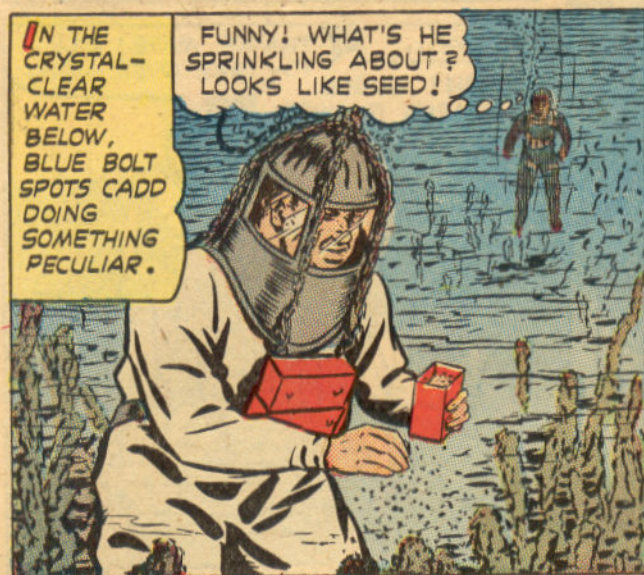
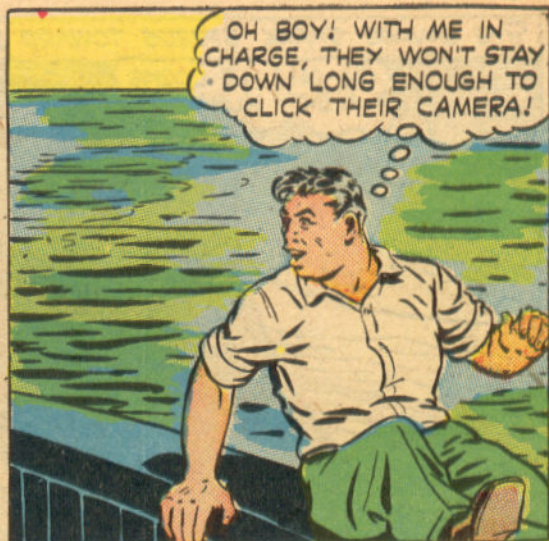
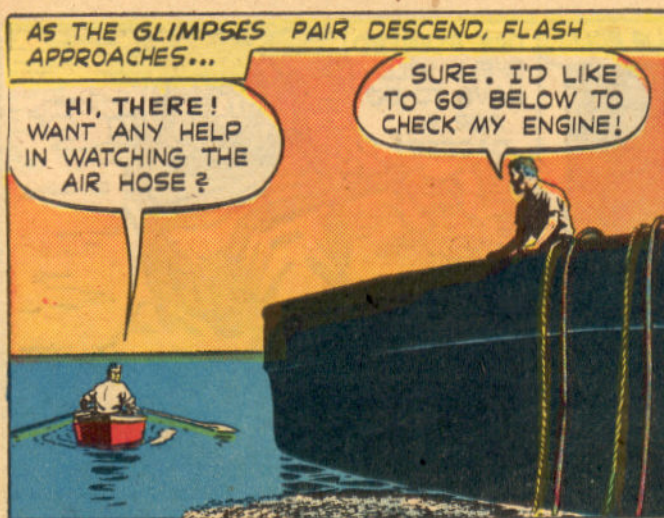
I'LL MAKE SURE THEY DON'T GET ANY PIX!



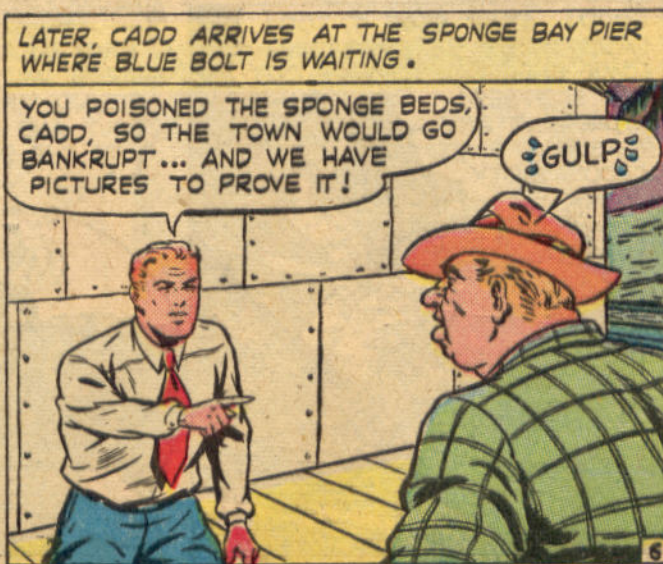
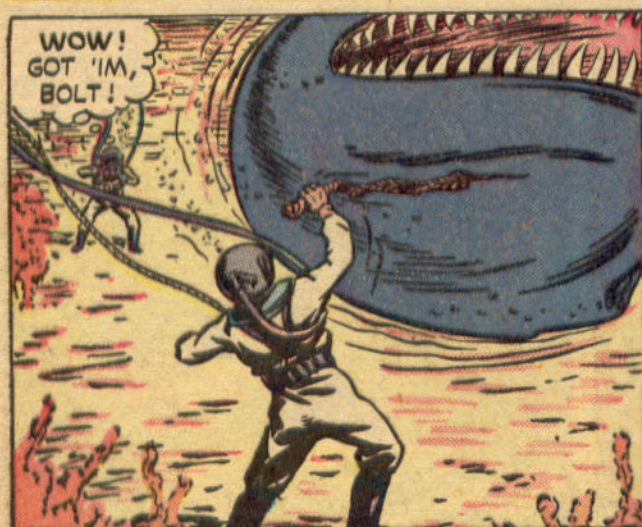
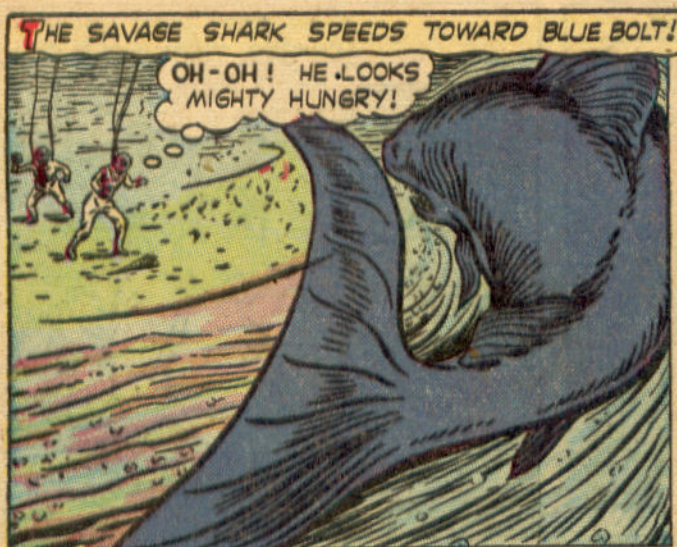
IT'S PERFECTLY SAFE! JUST KEEP AN EYE OPEN FOR MAN-EATING SHARKS!

GO GULP!





Q11 In what sport did the term "throw in the sponge" originate?



A11 Boxing. The loser's seconds used to toss a sponge into the ring as a sign of defeat.